



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 28, 1858.

The Senate, on Wednesday, passed, by a vote of 26 to 17, the bill for preserving and securing the harbor improvements at Chicago and Milwaukee. The Yeas and Nays were—

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Benjamin, Bigler, Broderick, Chandler, Collamer, Crittenden, Doolittle, Douglas, Durkee, Fessenden, Foot, Foster, Hamlin, Harlan, Jones, Kennedy, King, Seward, Shields, Simmons, Stuart, Thompson of New Jersey, Trumbull, Wade, and Wilson—26.

Nays—Messrs. Bright, Brown, Clay, Clingman, Davis, Hammond, Houston, Hunter, Iversen, Johnson of Arkansas, Johnson of Tennessee, Johnson of Ohio, Mason, Phelps, Pugh, Reid, Rice, Sebastian, and Shields—17.

The new Laid bill, as was stated yesterday, was also passed in the Senate. Mr. Simmons' amendment for a home valuation on dutiable goods, was first defeated by a vote of 25 to 17—and then the bill was carried—Ayes 28—Nays 14.

The vote on Mr. Simmons' amendment was as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Bigler, Broderick, Chandler, Crittenden, Fessenden, Foster, Hamlin, Harlan, King, Seward, Simmons, Thompson of New Jersey, Wade, Wilson, and Wright—17.

Nays—Messrs. Bright, Brown, Clay, Clingman, Davis, Douglas, Fitch, Fitzpatrick, Hammond, Hayne, Houston, Hunter, Iversen, Johnson of Arkansas, Johnson of Tennessee, Johnson of Ohio, Mason, Phelps, Pugh, Reid, Rice, Sebastian, and Shields—26.

The vote on the passage of the bill was as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Bigler, Brown, Clay, Clingman, Davis, Douglas, Fitch, Fitzpatrick, Hammond, Hayne, Houston, Hunter, Iversen, Johnson of Arkansas, Johnson of Tennessee, Johnson of Ohio, Mason, Phelps, Pugh, Reid, Rice, Sebastian, and Shields—26.

Nays—Messrs. Bright, Broderick, Chandler, Crittenden, Fessenden, Foster, Hamlin, Harlan, King, Seward, Simmons, Thompson of New Jersey, Wade, and Wilson—14.

The House of Representatives, on Wednesday, rejected the fortification appropriation bill, by striking out the enacting clause by a vote of 90 to 86. The House subsequently, in Committee of the Whole, took up the other appropriation bills, and in the course of the debate Mr. J. Glancy Jones stated that the Administration would call out the Texas regiment of volunteers, but not the other two regiments authorized, unless it became imperatively necessary. The appropriation bill for legislative, judicial, and executive expenses, goes back to the Senate, some of the Senate amendments not being concurred in. The National Intelligencer says:—

"The naval appropriation bill was considered in committee and reported to the House. The sum appropriated is \$13,149,544. In the course of the discussion, Mr. Bowcock advocated the construction of ten small sloops-of-war, which, he said, had been estimated for by the Navy Department without reference to the present condition of our foreign relations. The force of the recommendation is enhanced by recent events, and Mr. B. expressed the hope that an amendment would be adopted to provide for the construction of two gunboats, of light draft of water, but capable of carrying three of Dahlgren's heavy guns.

An amendment proposed by Mr. Marshall of Kentucky, was adopted, to make a discrimination in favor of American hemp for the use of the navy; and an amendment by Mr. Taylor of New York, increasing the appropriation for the Brooklyn Navy Yard to \$220,166, was also adopted. The bill was finally laid aside to be reported to the House.

The bill making appropriations for the support of the three volunteer regiments, being likely to give rise to discussion, was not considered. The committee took up the bill concerning the expenses of collecting the revenue. An amendment offered by Mr. Garrett, was adopted, requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to report at the next session his plan for reducing the expenses of collection.

The bill was then laid aside to be reported to the House, as was also the bill making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department. These appropriation bills will be the first in order for a vote on their passage to-day, the previous question on each of them having been ordered by the House."

A letter from an officer of the U. S. Army, dated Fort Bridger, Utah Territory, April 15, and published in the Boston Journal, states that, after Mr. Kane's interview with Governor Cumming, the latter, attended only by Mr. Kane, proceeded to Salt Lake City, which he entered on the 8th of April, and found a large hall ready and beautifully fitted up for his reception. "Brigham Young received him with an appropriate speech, which was responded to by the Governor in a true democratic and feeling manner. The corps look daily for his return. He was treated with the utmost civility and respect. They look daily for Col. Johnston to issue orders for entering the city, as the road is now passable." The condition of the troops is represented as "deplorable." The rations are very short, every thing scarce, and great suffering and privation have been endured. The prices demanded by traders for provisions, are exorbitant. Many soldiers have lost their hands and feet by being frost bitten, and many have died. Nothing is said of the designs of the Mormon leaders.

An election took place in the state of Maryland, on Wednesday, to settle the question as to the call of a Convention, for revising and altering the present State Constitution. In Baltimore, the vote was not in any strict sense a party one, and the election was very quiet and orderly. The result in Baltimore was—for a Convention 5,404—against one 3,957—majority for a convention, 1,447. Washington county gives one thousand and Washington against a convention. Frederick county, probably, gives five to eight hundred against it. In Cumberland the majority was 217 against a convention. Prince George gave a heavy majority the same way. It is regarded as certain that the call for a Convention has been rejected.

We find an abstract of the able and statesmanlike speech delivered by Senator Bell, of Tennessee, on the new Loan Bill, in the Senate, on Wednesday, published in the National Intelligencer. Mr. Bell, in alluding to the fact that the bill, as reported by the Finance Committee, created a debt without providing or contemplating the means of paying it, and that even a proposition to partially subvert this latter and by preventing notorious frauds on the revenue was seriously resisted, remarked upon the measure and manner in which it was pressed, as serving to illustrate the tendencies of partisan predilection, which, unwilling to confess the errors of the past, chose rather to trust to the eventualities of the future in the hope that they would bring relief or delivery.

To thoughtful and patriotic citizens the present condition of the country was suggestive of grave misgivings. The popular mind, after being so long preoccupied with questions concerning a mild political excitement, seemed, said Mr. B., to have sunk into comparative insensibility to the vital questions which must vitally concern the healthful functions of the body politic. Alternately played upon by the most powerful stimulants, whether found in a sympathy with the down-trodden nationalities of Europe, in dreams of territorial aggrandizement, or in the fierce jealousies of contending sections, the political conscience of the country seems stricken with apathy in the face of questions most intimately affecting the national welfare.

It was to be hoped, however, that the people, wearied and disgusted with the fruitless agitations of the last few years, would gladly turn to the consideration of topics which concern the common weal, and, at the same time, afford ample scope for the play of our political activity. The present occasion and the pending bill seemed opportune for such an awakening of the popular interest in practical questions of State policy. Twelve months ago we had a surplus of twenty millions in the Treasury. Now the Treasury is bankrupt, and we are running rapidly in debt, without providing any certain means of liquidation. Should not such a prospect rouse the people to inquiry into the financial policy of the Administration? In what other free country would such a condition of affairs be regarded with acquiescence? No British Ministry would so far presume on the toleration of a British public, as to come before Parliament with a loan-bill like that now pending in the Senate of the United States, for since the Revolution of 1688 no British public would have allowed such management of the national revenues to pass unchallenged.

An unparalleled financial revulsion had recently swept over the civilized world. It was the duty of our rulers to have been among the first to discern the coming storm, whereas they seem to have been among the last, if we may judge from the dispositions taken by the present Secretary of the Treasury in buying up on its eve the bonds of the Government at exorbitant premiums. Powerless to avert, they now confess themselves equally incompetent to remedy the disaster which has befallen the trade and industry of the country.

Mr. Bell then proceeded to criticize the views of the President, as announced under this head in his annual message, and contested so much of the President's argument as sought to throw upon the banks the burden of responsibility in the matter. He also reviewed briefly the history and working of a national bank, considered as a regulator of the national currency, and remarked on the fallacy of the free-trade theory, which, in the case of gold in the same category with other exportable commodities of a country, instead of regarding its efflux as the sure criterion of a redundant paper currency. He closed his speech by commenting on the comparative advantages of free trade in a country like Great Britain and in a country situated as our own. The free trade which Great Britain practised is not the free trade we are invited to establish. Great Britain, while preaching free trade to the rest of the world, has not failed to provide for her own interests, whereas we, kept discarded nearly every maxim which looked to the protection and development of American industry.

The House Committee on Post Offices have decided to report a bill for the Ocean mail service. It will embrace the following schedule:—
1. Collins line to be authorized to run to Southampton, instead of Liverpool.
2. The Havre line to be contracted with for ten years, at two dollars per mile.
3. A line to Gloucester, via Plymouth and Rotterdam, for ten years, at two dollars per mile.
4. A line from New Orleans, via Havana, Bermuda, Fayal, and Santander (Spain), for ten years, at two dollars per mile.
The expenses of these lines is not to exceed \$700,000 per annum. The sum is to be agreed to with the amount reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, on the 10th of May, for this service for the fiscal year. The estimated receipts of postage by European mails for the year is just about charged. All letters by private ships are to be carried at the same rate as by mail ships, and no letters are to be sent out of the United States, but through the Post Office.

Speaking of Senator Sumner's address to the people of Massachusetts, upon quitting home for a trip to Europe, dissenting from his position and remarks about slavery, and admitting that he is neither a suitable nor useful Senator, the Boston Courier remarks:—"We sincerely hope for the establishment of his health, and that with this may come clearer, broader, and more rational opinions upon questions in which the interests and feelings of this country are deeply concerned. But we do not think it consistent with the State, or the rights and duties of the State, or the nation, that the chair of Mr. Sumner in the Senate should be kept vacant for an indefinite period, sentimentally as a 'perpetual speech'—even if that speech were of the noblest, the purest, the most patriotic character. A doctrine like this scarcely suits the emergencies of public business or the idea of republican institutions."

The subject of a division of the Diocese of Maryland is now before the Protestant Episcopal Convention of that state, sitting in Baltimore. The Bishop in his address, referring to the matter, says, in rather transcendental style:—"The importance of the question lies far more in the principles involved, than in the details of their application to the particular case. It is comparative-ly a matter of little moment, whether any given diocese be, or be not, too unwieldy for its Bishop. It may be the turning point of life, as from the dead, or of driving point of growth, for the Church in these United States, whether its dioceses shall be reduced and kept somewhere near the primitive and apostolic model of a pastoral headship, or allowed to grow into the mediæval hypertrophy of ecclesiastical principalities."

The Fort Snelling case will be taken up in the House of Representatives on Tuesday next. It is due to the Secretary of War that it should be promptly considered and settled. The error in the matter was, probably, selling the place at private sale. As for any corruption or collusion on the part of the Secretary, we do not believe it. We observe that the Fort is to be evacuated by the U. S. troops.

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The Special Minister from Venezuela, Sr. Brecono sent here to attempt a settlement of the reclamations of American citizens, founded on their expulsion from Aris Island, familiarly known as the Shelton or Bird Island claims, has presented letters of recall, and will return to Lagunera by the next vessel. Mr. Brecono had previously been dismissed by the President, for a breach of diplomatic privilege, and of international comity, in publishing a pamphlet statement of the case as viewed by his Government. This was regarded by the President and Gen. Case as an appeal to the people from the action of the Executive, not to be tolerated. Sr. B. was therefore dismissed, as M. Poussin, Mr. Molina, and Mr. Crampson were, but, perceiving his error, the minister apologized, and was permitted to present letters of recall.

The Committee on Foreign Relations, in the Senate, it is said, had a full meeting on Tuesday morning, and considered the proposition from Mr. Sidel, to abrogate that clause of the Ashburton Treaty which requires a royal force to be maintained on the Coast of Africa. After some discussion, a formal division was taken, with the following result:—Yeas—Messrs. Mason, Sidel, and Polk. Nays—Messrs. Crittenden, Douglas, and Seward. Thus the movement was defeated by a majority. It is said that Mr. Mason is engaged in preparing a report on the right of search, which will be submitted to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as its answer or a commentary upon the President's Message communicating the British attacks upon our merchant vessels.

A bill is now pending in Congress which proposes an increase of the pay of officers of the Navy. The arguments in favor of this measure are that the present pay of officers belonging to that arm of our national service is inadequate to their necessary expenses, taking into consideration the present value of money as compared with the high price of living and of materials persons are obliged to buy.

The reader will not fail to observe the comments of the Richmond South upon the late Southern (Commercial?) Convention. When its condemnation is pronounced even in that quarter, we may be sure, its failure was complete. We have an end, therefore, of Southern Commercial Conventions;—for which, let every Southern man be thankful.

The Loudoun Mirror says:—"The month of May has been most remarkable for the frequency and apparent delight with which it has rained. Scarcely a day has passed since she set in that we have not been visited with a copious shower. The grass, however, and vegetation generally, we suppose, is all the better for it, so we'll just 'let it rain.'"

Leonard Scott & Co., have re-printed the May number of Blackwood's Magazine. It contains a continuation of Bulwer's novel—What will he do with it?—Food and Drink—Italy—Oude &c.—&c. Robt. Bell, King street, is the Agent for Blackwood, and the reprints of the British Quartermaster.

The following named gentlemen have been appointed Directors for the Bank of the Valley, at Leesburg, to serve the ensuing year:—By the Stockholders—John Janney, Wm. H. Gray, Henry T. Harrison, Thomas P. Knox. By the State—R. J. T. White, R. Beutley, Jr., Arthur L. Rogers.

We have examined, says the Baltimore American, the invention of Mr. Thos. P. Akers, for preventing the explosion of steam-boilers, by giving notice of the diminution of water, and evidently believe that all who examine it will be convinced at once of its efficiency and utility.

The other officers of the ship New Era, whose captain reported that the ship New Era was boarded and subsequently fired at by a British cruiser, say that they know nothing of the circumstance reported by the captain.

The Committee on Territories of the Senate, will, at its next meeting, agree upon a bill for the organization of the territories of Arizona and Dakota.

The railroad war at Erie, Pa., has been renewed, and the track again torn up. At last advice, however, the damage had been repaired.

Camp Robinson, at Ashland, Va., is said to be a grand affair. Multitudes have been in attendance. On Tuesday night, there was a grand Civic and Military Ball.

The old Federal doctrine—none the worse for that—of increasing the Navy, and making it efficient—is coming again into vogue.

See article in another column for important arrangements in regard to the great Mail routes from New York to New Orleans.

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—The House select committee on the accounts of the late door-keeper exposures of years' existence, by bookkeepers obtaining possession of Congressional documents; and mention as an instance the obtaining the patent office reports costing the government 66 cents each, and selling them at 15 cents a volume.

Col. Sloc has sent a memorial to the Senate, asking to be protected in his Tehuantepec grant.

The defeat of Mr. Simmons' amendment in the Senate is not a set back on the question of home valuation. Messrs. Tombs, Bigler, and others, who are disposed to favor a proper system of home valuation, held that the amendment was a revenue measure, and therefore could not originate in the Senate. Mr. Harrington has been nominated as post-master at Cleveland, Ohio, and Mr. Strother as collector at Chicago.

St. Louis, May 25.—The river has risen about five feet since Saturday, and is now over three feet higher than at any time this spring. The rise is originally from the Missouri, although the Illinois and other upper streams are rising. The upper Mississippi rose four feet at Dubuque on Saturday night to last evening. There were heavy rains on Saturday night and nearly all yesterday, but the weather is clear now, with thermometer at 73 degrees.

WORCESTER, Mass., May 25.—The jury in the case of Henry H. Stone, who was arrested in Springfield some time since for forgery, this morning brought in a verdict of not guilty. He is still held on a civil process for debts, amounting to seventy thousand dollars, being unable to find bail in double the amount.

BOSTON, May 20.—The Tract Society yesterday adopted the anti-slavery resolutions, with the exception of the one providing for a secession from the New York Society, which was referred to the executive committee of seven members. The old board and officers were re-elected.

BUFFALO, N.Y., May 25.—The steam saw-mill on York street, known as Bonnell Mill, owned by Bonnell, was destroyed by fire last night. The mill and machinery \$8,000. No insurance.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the TIMES."

Dispatches from St. Louis announce another rise in that quarter, and the Illinois again at flood height—even higher than ever—and over its banks in every direction. The Pittsburgh Chronicle of Tuesday says:—"The Wash river is higher than ever was known, and spreading all over the country in the vicinity of Vincennes, where the river was ten miles wide."

The British already have on their West India station a fleet of ships of twice-and-a-half the number of guns of the American squadron, even including the vessels now under orders for the Gulf. They have seven steamers in all, twelve of which are gun steamers carrying in the aggregate 357 guns.

The Emperor Faustin, of Hayti, it is said, has urged the governments of France and England to intercede with the Cabinet at Washington, in regard to the Island of Navassa, which has been taken possession of by the Americans. The Island, though barren, is important on account of its guano; and by its situation between Jamaica and Cuba, is an important station on the water route from the Antilles to Europe.

Bishop Potter, of the Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania, has been constrained to leave his Diocese for a season, and visit Europe in search of health. He writes to the Standing Committee that he cannot hope to be equal hereafter to the duties of his position, and recommends the appointment of an Assistant Bishop by the approaching Convention. He volunteers a proportionate reduction of his salary, but private munificence will doubtless permit no such diminution to occur. The Diocesan Convention of Pennsylvania is now in session at Philadelphia, and the question will probably come before it. Dr. Vinton, of New York, is the low-church nominee for the post.

At the yearly meeting of the Hicksite Friends in New York, Rachel Baker made a discourse, and spoke quite fluently. She pronounced the story of the sejourning of the money-changers from the temple a parable, signifying the spirit of Christ driving the money-changing thoughts from the temple of the heart, where they had usurped the place of holiness. She at the close strongly urged the women never to marry for the purpose of obtaining support. Her whole discourse was an elaborate defence of the doctrines of the Friends, and of the right of women to speak in public.

They are getting sharp down at Lafayette, La., under the influence of their great mineral water facilities. A horticultural advertiser that he would supply all sorts of trees and plants, especially "pie-plants of all kinds." A gentleman thereupon sent him an order for "one package of custard pie seed and a few dozen of mince pie plants." The gardener promptly filled the order by sending him four goose eggs and a small dog.

The Courtes touches for the statement.

The freemen's council of Albany, New York, have completed arrangements for a grand parade and muster in that city, on Wednesday, 29th, and Thursday, 30th of September next, and a cordial invitation is extended to the freemen of the Union to participate therein. As an inducement to visit, companies, the council offer the sum of eighteen hundred dollars to be distributed as prizes.

It is stated that there were twenty thousand Germans near New York on Monday, congregated to celebrate Whit-Monday, by singing and other amusements, in the style common to "fisher-lads." Mayor Tiemann paid them a visit, and was escorted over the grounds by the grand marshal of the day. He was obliged in courtesy, to "imburse" or occasionally from the "bowing horns" of larger bier every where presented to him.

The Richmond Whig learns from a reliable gentleman, recently from the South, that in the last few weeks there has been opened at what is known as Puckersong gold mine, about two and a half miles from Atlanta, Georgia, a vein of gold of richness equal if not superior to any ever discovered in this country. The vein has been penetrated at three different points, and exhibits the most astonishing richness.

A young man named George W. Taylor, formerly of Philadelphia, and who lately married a young wife in Franklin county, (Mo.), blew out his brains with a revolver at a boarding-house in St. Louis. Among his papers was a slip, written with a pencil, in these words: "My Dear Wife: I have wronged you. Forgive me and pray for me. I am a villain, and deserve to die. May God have mercy upon my soul."

Both houses of the Legislature of Wisconsin have passed a bill for the re-establishment of capital punishment for the crime of murder in the first degree. A strong reaction appears to have taken place in the minds of the Legislature in relation to the subject. This last action of the Legislature is understood to be in conformity with a general expression of the popular will.

The Brooklyn Navy Yard presents a busy appearance in the way of fitting out the war steamers ordered to the coast of Cuba and other Southern points. The steamer Arctic is nearly ready for service, and will probably sail on to-day. The steam-tug Fish-bash is also in commission, and her crew has been taken on board from the receiving-ship North Carolina.

At a special meeting of the New York Board of Health a committee was appointed to investigate the swill milk question, with a view to mitigate, to some extent, the evils that flow from the use of that poisonous fluid; and the people are beginning to inquire whether there are not other impure articles of food palmed upon them from year to year.

The whole estate of the celebrated Book Inriddle Coal Company, near Cloverport, Ky., is to be sold at auction, on the 28th of June, to pay a mortgage of \$350,000. This, the Memphis Bulletin remarks, is an unfortunate close of the affairs of the company, whose stock and property were valued a few years ago at \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000.

A very serious accident occurred on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, on Saturday last, by which two men lost their lives. A passenger engine No. 79, ran off the track, near Manassas Station, killing James Caskie, engineer, and Isaac Phillips, fireman. Phillips died almost immediately, but Caskie lingered some eight hours.

Joshua Giddings, the oldest member of the House of Representatives, writes that there has been, in the present Congress, less in-vestigation and predisposition to vice, than in Congress with which he has been associated.

The name and site of the office at Ashton's Mills, Frederick county, Va., is charged to Collinsville; Daniel Collins postmaster, writes Martin S. Rogers.

The ship Mountain Wave, from Boston, has taken a cargo of ice for Honolulu, Sandwich Islands. We believe this is the first shipment of ice to that remote region.

The Late "Southern Commercial Convention."

Why do we attach so little significance to the opinions of the Montgomery Convention? For the simple and sufficient reason that it was composed of men who did not represent the popular sentiment of the South. We are not begging the question. We do not deny that the Convention reflected the feeling of the South, because its action was not in accordance with our own estimate of the public spirit. We maintain that its utterances should not be taken for the voice of the people, because its members, however respectable as individuals, were not the sort of persons to represent the sentiment of the masses. It is a question if one-fifth proportion of the delegates were from the country. It is a question if one-half were appointed by any responsible authority. They were mainly from the cities and villages, and instead of being selected with reference to their views on the particular subjects agitated in the Convention, were appointed from caprice or regard to the chances of attendance. The great body of the people never moved in the matter. The planter and the merchant wanted leisure for a holiday excursion in a busy season. The successful lawyer could not quit his court during term. The Montgomery Convention was not a convention of these classes, the business barrister, the doctor without patients, editors in quest of subscribers, and individuals astride of hobbies,—these were the sort of persons who directed the deliberations of the recent "Southern Commercial Convention." We do not mean to ignore the presence of many gentlemen of solid reputation and weight of character. Nor do we intend any disparagement even to those who are designated in our classification. We only wish to be understood as affirming that the majority of delegates in the Convention at Montgomery, were not the sort of men whom the people of the South would have selected to determine the policy of reversing the slave trade, or to pronounce upon the expediency of an immediate dissolution of the Union. Will anybody venture to deny the statement? Does anybody claim that the Convention at Montgomery was a fair and faithful exposure of the political opinions of the South? Then, why advance its authority to prove that the people of the South repudiate the bill for the admission of Kansas?

By the very principle of its organization, the Montgomery Convention was an incompetent representative of Southern sentiment. It was composed of men with partial and extreme opinions. The drift of its deliberations was directed by a foregone conclusion. Its action was not affected by the influence of the great body of quiet and conservative citizens, and the result of its demonstrations betrays the narrow bias of a clique rather than an intelligent regard for the interests of the whole community.—Rich South.

Ex-President Pierce.

The subjoined extract from the New York correspondence of the New Hampshire Gazette, brings pleasant tidings from ex-President Pierce:—

Mr. Adams, from Madeira, in England, as late as the 10th of last month, gave us flattering accounts of Mrs. Pierce's health, at which her many Portsmouth friends will rejoice. The ex-President still continues to win golden opinions from all sorts of people. On the 6th of April he had a grand reception in the Consular house, at which the dignitaries of the island, military, civil and ecclesiastical, all assisted, as well as the English resident nobility and gentry, and the inhabitants generally. His manners, as reported, and yet justified, charm everybody. Indeed, the General owes his success in political life, next to his talents, incontestably great, to his graceful, easy, and conciliatory manners. Would that more of our great men would cultivate the minor morals more! Then personal popularity would wait upon common sense and acknowledged ability. The U. S. frigate Cumberland, still at Madeira when we last heard from the island, gave the ex-President a grand and interesting tour. He was received with the customary salute, and each gun of the frigate answered by the Portuguese fort at L. B. B. and the same imposing demonstration attended his return to the shore, which was crowded with the sympathetic population."

Legal Decision.

In the case of Siles & Kaine, vs. Richard Mathers, sheriff, who commenced the action in the United States Circuit Court at New York, last week, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant for \$2,308. A motion was made by the plaintiff for a new trial. Judge Levitt charged the jury in this case, that a writ of replevin could not issue from the Federal courts against goods legally in the possession of an officer of the State courts, and that the court which first obtained jurisdiction of the property held it. Consequently, if the jury should find that the defendant was properly in the hands of the sheriff, a verdict must be entered for the defendant, as that fact would prove a bar to the present action. In accordance with these instructions, the jury gave a verdict for the sheriff.

This decision is one of great interest to litigants and the legal profession, and if sustained by the full court, (Judges McLean and Levitt,) upon the argument for a new trial this week, will set at naught principal precedents in the jurisdiction and destroy the action of the Federal and State courts, and will prevent a collision of authority, particularly in the forced collection of debts.—Cincinnati Gazette.

A Portrait by Mitchell.

John Mitchell, of the Southern Citizen, published at Nashville, Tennessee, writes his views of the appearance of Roger A. Pryor, of the Richmond South, as follows:—"Pryor is a man under thirty; tall and straight, with long dark hair, and a countenance highly intellectual. His head is of the strictly Egyptian type; and with the long straight hair flowing to his shoulders, he looks as if he might have started all alive from a monument of the Fourth Dynasty, not long since discovered by the excavations of the Pharaohs. Altogether he is a noble person, mentally and physically."—Petersburg Express.

VERY DESIRABLE FARM FOR SALE.

—I offer for sale, privately, the FARM upon which now resides containing 355 Acres. This Farm offers great inducements to the purchaser from its locality, being within 24 miles of Mitchell's Station, and 4 of the Reptan, and thereby brought into immediate connection by railroads, with Richmond and Alexandria. It is beautifully situated in one of the best neighborhoods in the State. The improvements are a comfortable DWELLING, with six rooms, and all other necessary outbuildings. A more particular description is unnecessary, as those wishing to purchase will examine for themselves. For a further description, apply to J. C. GREEN, at Culpeper Court House, or the subscriber at Mitchell's Station.

WM. A. ROBERTSON.

Culpeper County, my 4—eotf

STEARNS SAW-MILL.—The undersigned would respectfully announce to the public that the Stearns Saw-Mill is now in operation, about four miles West of Culpeper Court House, and that they are now prepared to furnish lumber of every description at the shortest notice and upon reasonable terms, comprising all the usual kinds suitable for building purposes.

They have on hand about four thousand feet of various kinds—some well seasoned.

Calpeper Co., Feb 1—eotf

20 HHDS. PRIME PORTO RICO SUGAR, for sale by

W. G. WASHINGTON & CO.

Flora at the White House.

Flora is in favor at the Presidential mansion,—not Flora McFimney, the young lady of Madison Square, who has nothing to wear, but Flora,—the flower goddess,—Congress in an aesthetic having generously voted one thousand dollars for the purchase of the necessary wherewithal to adorn the walks and gardens of the White House.

The poets say there is a moral in flowers,—and many who are not poets, nor moralists, may agree, that if the world had more flowers in it, the thorns and briars would be felt, the path of life, would be less acutely felt,—How all is, however, we leave it to the philosophers, the psychologists, the transcendentalists, and the horticulturalists, to determine. We only desire to say here, that the chivalrous, gallant, patriotic, Mr. Keitt, of South Carolina, has at last achieved a reputation—a good reputation—a reputation for good taste, in pushing through the appropriation in question, in spite of the unappreciative opposition of a cold, Northern member from New Jersey. We quote from the Congressional Globe, (the General Appropriation Bill, 1859):—

"Mr. Adams—I move to strike out the following clause of the bill:—
"For purchasing plants for the conservatory of the President's house, \$1,000."

"I think that it is an unnecessary appropriation, and that the \$1,000 may well be saved to the Government at this time."

Mr. Keitt—I was instructed by the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to increase the appropriation to \$2,000, but if no committee do not wish to do that, I have no objection to my motion. I trust, however, that the committee will, at least, not strike out the \$1,000. As has been already stated to-day, in consequence of the Treasury extension, the green house has been torn down and a new one built. There are very few flowers in it, as I have been informed by those who know, and no rare ones. This appropriation is for the purchase of flowers. I am perfectly unselfish in my advocacy of it; for I take it for granted that I am the only member of the House who does not expect to be the present incumbent of the White House. [Laughter.] I ask it for the benefit of others and not for my own.

But, sir, this appropriation is to be final. An appropriation of \$3,000 is recommended for the purpose by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Public Buildings. I understand from them that \$3000 would purchase flowers enough, and that no subsequent appropriation will be needed for their preservation.

Mr. Walbridge—Are there to be any "mourning-glories?"

Mr. Keitt—No; we want neither snow-flowers, nor mourning-glories, nor sweet Williams, nor jumping Johnies, which gentlemen have spoken of. [Laughter.] I am in earnest in this matter. I should have liked to have moved to increase this appropriation to \$3,000; but if the House, in a fit of economy, is unwilling to do this, I do not wish to be troublesome.

Mr. Lotner—Will the gentlemen give us the names of some of the new flowers they want to purchase?

Mr. Keitt—The Committee of Ways and Means have made an appropriation here of \$1,000, and I take it for granted that the gentleman from Virginia knew what he was making the appropriation for. [Laughter.]

Mr. Adrian—I am as fond of flowers as any man, but I think this expenditure of \$1,000 unnecessary, and therefore I object to it.

Mr. Adrian's amendment was not agreed to.

The Finances.

When President Buchanan assumed the reins of government, on the fourth of March, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven—a little over one year ago—there were twenty millions of dollars in the public Treasury. Ten months afterwards—about the first of December following—we find this reserve exhausted, and Congress called upon for authority to issue twenty millions of Treasury notes, or rather to pledge the Government's credit for that sum. On the 15th day of December, Secretary Cobb, urging Congress to expedite this loan or grant, said:—

"Though the full amount of twenty millions of dollars will not, in all probability, be needed at this time, it is yet to be deemed best that the Department be authorized to issue and keep out that sum, should it be required by the public service."